

## COMMITTEE MINUTES for GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT

**Date:** January 25, 2005

**Place:** Legislative Dining Room

**Convened:** 1/25/2005  
9:35 AM

**Recessed:**

**Reconvened:**

**Adjourned:** 1/25/2005  
11:55 AM

**Present:** Senators Courtney-CC, Lundby-CC, Connolly, Wieck  
Representatives Alons-CH, Hutter-VC, Lensing-RM, Baudler, Eichhorn, Raecker, Thomas,  
Whitead, Winckler

**Absent:** None

**Excused:** None

Senator Mary Lundby convened the meeting at 9:35 AM. Minutes of 12/8 & 9/2004 and 1/19/2005 were approved.

Gary Maynard, Dept. of Corrections, discussed the report from the Task Force Report of Critical Incidents within the Iowa Prison System. The Dept. has implemented many the recommendations from the task force, as well as those from the Ombudsman's Office and Iowa Protection & Advocacy. Mr. Maynard responded to questions. Rep. Hutter requested documentation be developed to assure that prisoners actually take medications prescribed for them.

Ruth Copperrider, State Ombudsman's Office, stated their office will be offering legislation this session to deal with some of the issues outlined in the report. Senator Lundby asked if their office would object to those bills being assigned to the Oversight Committee. Ms. Cooperrideer indicated that this would be most satisfactory.

Sylvia Piper, Iowa Protection & Advocacy, spoke to the collaborative effort of the agencies involved in the Governor's Task Force. She discussed some of the recommendations from her agency dealing with this issue. She responded to questions.

Tom Becker, State Public Defender, read a prepared statement to the committee. Since not all counties have a public defender, his office is responsible for issuing contracts to attorneys for judges to select from when appointing a public defender. The only specific criteria applied is that the attorney be licensed. An extensive discussion followed in light of an appointment in Southeast Iowa. Mr. Becker reiterated that the appointments are made by a judge. Mr. Becker responded to questions regarding the efficiency of the Public Defenders Office.

Lynn Walding, Alcohol Beverage Division, stated responses to questions from previous Oversight Committee meetings were addressed in copies of the Iowa Liquor Quarterly, which were included in the handout materials. He discussed the progress ABD has made in developing the RFP for services provided by ABD. Jim Kuhlman, Operations Manager, reviewed the components and time lines for the RFP. Mr. Walding and Mr. Kuhlman responded to questions.

Representative Eichhorn moved to rise at 11:55 AM.

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Senator Mary Lundby

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Judy Dierenfeld, Committee Secretary